



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/562,978	12/29/2005	Peter Kotay Nagy	1060-0163PUS1	3611
2292	7590	06/13/2007	EXAMINER	
BIRCH STEWART KOLASCH & BIRCH			CHANDRAKUMAR, NIZAL S	
PO BOX 747			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
FALLS CHURCH, VA 22040-0747			1625	
NOTIFICATION DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
06/13/2007		ELECTRONIC		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

mailroom@bskb.com

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/562,978	KOTAY NAGY ET AL.	
	Examiner Nizal S. Chandrakumar	Art Unit 1625	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 11-13 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 11-13 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

This application filed 12/29/2005 is a 3710069 06/30/2004. Claims 11-13 are before the Examiner.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 11-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being vague and indefinite.

In claim 11 it is not clear what is "A" type or "B" type solvent.

With regards to claim 12 and claim 13, claim 1 is referred to, but there is no Claim 1. It appears that claims 12 and 13 depend on claim 11. In claim 12 the term 'less polar' is vague- less polar than what? Also the terms 'preferably', ' more preferably' and 'most preferably' are confusing. It is confusing as to what solvents the applicant is claiming.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 11-13 are rejected under 35 U. S. C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lifshitz-Liron et al. (WO 03/051362 A2, filing date 12.18.2002).

7. Lifshitz-Liron et al. (entire document) describes the formation and precipitation of clopidogrel bisulfate from clopidogrel free base and sulfuric acid in single or mixed solvents. It is well known in the art that once the protonation of clopidogrel occurs, the solvent(s) (of clopidogrel free base) become anti-solvent(s) causing precipitation.

8. Lifshitz-Liron et al. does not teach the addition of sulfuric acid to clopidogrel free base dissolved in a solvent or adding sulfuric acid mixed with a solvent to the solution of clopidogrel free base, but suggests that clopidogrel bisulfate is insoluble in the presence of solvent mixtures in which one of the solvent is an anti solvent.

In view of the disclosure of WO 03/051362 A2, the instantly claimed process, as a whole, would have been *prima facie* obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made. The process steps as instantly claimed are disclosed in the reference and only differ in the solvents used. However, “[w]here the general conditions of a claim are disclosed in the prior art, it is not inventive to discover the optimum or workable ranges by routine experimentation”. *In re Alter*, 220 F.2d 454, 456, 105 USPQ 233, 235 (CCPA 1955).

The skilled artisan would be imbued with at least a reasonable expectation that other solvent combination could be used as solvents in the preparation of amorphous clopidogrel hydrogen sulfate given the disclosure of WO 03/051362 A2 wherein the dissolution of clopidogrel free base and subsequent formation of the hydrogen sulfate

salt, precipitation, filtering and optionally washing and drying of clopidogrel hydrogen sulfate is disclosed.

No claim is allowed.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nizal S. Chandrakumar whose telephone number is 571-272-6202. The examiner can normally be reached on 8.30 am – 5 pm Monday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thomas McKenzie can be reached at 571-272-0670 or Primary Examiner D. Margaret Seaman can be reached at 571-272-0694. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Nizal S. Chandrakumar
Nizal S. Chandrakumar

D. Margaret Seaman
D. MARGARET SEAMAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER